

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 1, line 1 and ending on page 1, line 12, by adding a heading as follows:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a method for welding together two bodies, for instance pipes or plates, which are placed mutually in line against each other while leaving clear a weld groove, wherein the weld groove is filled with more than one welding layer by means of a welding torch moved in longitudinal direction of the weld groove. The present invention also relates to a device for welding together two bodies, for instance pipes or plates, which are placed mutually in line against each other while leaving clear a weld groove, comprising at least one carrier for a welding torch guidable in longitudinal direction of the weld groove.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 1, line 13 and ending on page 1, line 22 by adding a heading as follows:

2. Description of the Related Art

It is generally known to realize connections between two pipes, for instance to form a pipeline, or two plates by means of welding. Since the maximum thickness of a welding layer which can be deposited is limited and the pipes or plates are often too thick to be connected with a single welding layer, a welded connection is built up by laying several welding layers over each other until the weld groove is wholly filled. A method and device suitable for this purpose is known from the Netherlands patent application 9400742.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 1, line 23 and ending on page 1, line 24 by adding a heading as follows:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention has for its object to improve the above stated method and device.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 3, line 32 and ending on page 3, line 33 by adding a heading as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention will be further elucidated hereinbelow with reference to the annexed drawings.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 4, line 9 and ending on page 4, line 18 by adding a heading as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Figure 1 shows a device for welding together two pipes 1 which are placed coaxially against each other while leaving clear a weld groove 2. One or more of such welding devices can be placed on board a pipelaying vessel to lay welding layers in the annular weld grooves 2 of a pipeline 4 displaced in arrow direction 3. For an explanation of the components of the welding device shown in figure 1 and not significant for the present invention reference is made to the Netherlands patent application 9400742.